

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Corbin at 11:05 a.m. on March 12, 2002, in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: April Holman, Legislative Research Department
Shirley Higgins, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: None

Others attending: See attached list.

The minutes of the March 7, 2002, meeting were approved.

Senator Corbin opened a discussion on a previously heard bill, **SB 581**, concerning a tax credit against the income tax liability of business firms who employ certain teachers during the months when school is not regularly in session.

Senator Corbin recalled that the fiscal note on the bill shows a negative revenue balance of \$486,000 and expenditures of \$26,000. Senator Praeger recalled that it was noted at the hearing that the fiscal note does not take into account the revenue that could be gained due to the summer employment of math and science teachers. Senator Corbin commented that the fiscal note was based on assumptions made by the Department of Revenue upon reviewing available statistics on the number of science and math teachers. However, at this time, no one can predict the actual number of teachers that would be involved and the salary they would be paid. Senator Donovan commented that the bill is a good way to get businesses involved in education and to encourage Kansas math and science teachers to continue teaching.

Committee discussion followed regarding the provision for a five-year partnership agreement wherein math and science teachers would agree to continue to teach after a business agrees to employ them for the summer months for five years. Senator Jordan, author of the bill, stood to remind the Committee that the five-year provision was included as an attempt to address the fear of school officials that teachers would leave teaching the first year after signing an agreement with a business because they could earn a higher salary in the private sector. He noted that, in his opinion, some type of agreement between the business and the teacher is necessary. Senator Taddiken suggested that the five-year time frame be eliminated by amending the bill on page 2, line 6.

Senator Clark moved that **SB 581** be amended on page two, lines 6 through 8, by inserting a period after "session" on line 6 and striking "for a period of at least five school years and the teacher agrees to continue employment as a teacher in the school district for at least five years," seconded by Senator Taddiken. The motion carried.

Senator Clark moved to recommend **SB 581** favorably for passage as amended, seconded by Senator Lee. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

The next meeting date is to be announced.